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OBLON, SPIVAK, MCCLELLAND, MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.
1940 DUKE STREET
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22314

EXAMINER
HAMZA, FARUK

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2155	

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

PTO-90C (Rev. 10/03)

	Application No.	Applicant(s)
Office Action Summary	10/058,082	KATAOKA ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Faruk Hamza	2155	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE <u>3</u> MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on <u>06 September 2005</u>.

2a)☒ This action is **FINAL.**   2b)☐ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-20* is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-20* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

      1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

      3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>04/29/02</u>.

4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .

5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6) ☐ Other: _____.

Response to Amendment

1.   This action is responsive to the amendment filed on September 06, 2005.

Claims 1-3 and 9-20 have been amended. Claims 1-20 are now pending.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 101

35 U.S.C. 101 reads as follows:

> Whoever invents or discovers any new and useful process, machine, manufacture, or
> composition of matter, or any new and useful improvement thereof, may obtain a patent therefor,
> subject to the conditions and requirements of this title.

2.   Claims 19 and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 because the claimed

invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter. Claims are directed to a

data signal embodied in a carrier wave. A data signal is not tangible and does not

belong to one of the statutory categories. See MPEP 2106.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35

U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this

Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the
> United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application
> by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this
> title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

The changes made to 35 U.S.C. 102(e) by the American Inventors

Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA) and the Intellectual Property and High Technology

Technical Amendments Act of 2002 do not apply when the reference is a U.S.

patent resulting directly or indirectly from an international application filed before

November 29, 2000. Therefore, the prior art date of the reference is determined

under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) prior to the amendment by the AIPA (pre-AIPA 35 U.S.C.

102(e)).

3.   Claims 1-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by

Saitou et al. (U.S. Patent Number 6,789,078) hereinafter referred as Saitou.

Saitou teaches the invention as claimed including a system for managing

registered member information in membership site on the Internet and relates

more particularly to technology for centrally managing member information (See

abstract).

As to claim 1, Saitou teaches a server device comprising:

a user-information storage section which stores in advance user

information regarding at least one user to be a new member of a system (Fig. 1,

101, Saitou discloses user-information storage section);

a communications section which sends and receives predetermined

information to and from at least one user terminal through a communications

network (Fig. 1, Saitou discloses communication section sending and receiving

information through communications netowrk);

an input-form sender which sends input-form information for inputting ID (identification) information for identifying said at least one user in a predetermined ID-form, to said at least one user terminal through said communications section (Column 5, lines 8-67, Saitou discloses input-form sender which sends input-form);

an ID-information receiver which receives the ID information from said at least one user terminal through said communications section, in association with said input-form information sent by said input-form sender (Column 5, lines 8-67, Saitou discloses ID-information receiver which receives ID information);

an information acquirer which acquires the user information corresponding to said at least one user from said user-information storage section, in association with the ID information received by said ID-information receiver (Column 6, lines 1-51, Saitou discloses information acquirer which acquires the user informaiton);

a member-form sender which (1) sets the user information acquired by said information acquirer in member-form information used for inputting member information to generate thereby member form information having at least part of the member information set therein, and (2) sends the generated member form information to said at least one user terminal through said communications section (Column 5, lines 8- Column 6, lines 51, Saitou discloses setting user information acquired by said information acquirer);

a member-information receiver which receives the member information,

sent from said at least one user terminal in association with said user information

and member-form information sent by said member-form sender, through said

communications section (Column 5, lines 8- Column 6, lines 51, Saitou discloses

member-information receiver which receives the member information); and

a member-information storage section which stores the member

information received by said member-information receiver (Column 9, lines 34-

52, Saitou discloses member-information storage section which stores the

member information).

As to claim 2, Saitou teaches a server device comprising:

a user-information storage section which stores in advance user

information regarding at least one user to be a new member of a system (Fig. 1,

101);

a communications section which sends and receives predetermined

information to and from at least one user terminal and at least one sales-staff

terminal which are connected with each other through a communications network

(Fig. 1);

an input-form sender which sends input-form information for inputting ID

information for identifying said at least one user in a predetermined ID-input form,

to said at least one user terminal through said communications section (Column

5, lines 8-67);

an ID-information receiver which receives the ID information sent from said at least one user terminal in association with the input-form information sent by said input-form sender, through said communications section (Column 5, lines 8-67);

an information acquirer which acquires the user information corresponding to said at least one user from said user-information storage section, in association with the ID information received by said ID-information receiver (Column 6, lines 1-51);

a member-form sender which (1) sets the user information acquired by said information acquirer in member-form information used for inputting member information to generate thereby member form information having at least part of the member information set therein, and (2) sends the generated member form information to the at least one user terminal through said communications section (Column 5, lines 8- Column 6, lines 51);

a member-information receiver which receives the member information, sent from said at least one user terminal in association with the user information and the member-form information sent by said member-form sender, through said communications section (Column 5, lines 8- Column 6, lines 51);

a member-information storage section which stores the member information received by said member-information receiver (Column 9, lines 34-52); and

a member-information sender which sends the member information

received by said member-information receiver to said at least one sales-staff

terminal through said communications section (Column 9, lines 34-52).

As to claim 3, Saitou teaches the server device according to claim 2,

wherein:

each of said input-form sender and said member-form sender sends a

Web page the includes form information to said at least one user terminal

(Column 7, lines 41-Column 8, lines 14); and

said member-information sender sends an e-mail that includes the

member information received by said member-information receiver to said at

least one sales-staff terminal (Column 9, lines 34-52).

As to claim 4, Saitou teaches the server device according to claim 2,

further comprising:

a staff-information storage section which stores information regarding at

least one sales staff, in association with the user information stored in said user-

information storage section (Column 9, lines 34-52), and

wherein said information acquirer acquires the user information

corresponding to the at least one user from said user-information storage

section, and acquires the information regarding said at least one sales staff from

said staff-information storage section (Column 9, lines 34-52), and

said member-information sender sets, as addressee, an e-mail address included in the information regarding said at least one sales staff and acquired by said information acquirer, and sends an e-mail including the member information acquired by said member-information receiver to said at least one sales staff terminal (Column 7, lines 41-Column 8, lines 14).

As to claim 5, Saitou teaches the server device according to claim 3, further comprising

a staff-information storage section which stores information regarding at least one sales staff, in association with the user information stored in said user-information storage section (Column 9, lines 34-52), and

wherein said information acquirer acquires the user information corresponding to the at least one user from said user-information storage section, and acquires the information regarding said at least one sales staff from said staff-information storage section (Column 6, lines 1-51), and

said member-information sender sets, as addressee, an e-mail address included in the information regarding said at least one sale staff and acquired by said information acquirer, and sends an e-mail including the member information acquired by said member-information receiver to said at least one sales staff terminal (Column 7, lines 41-Column 8, lines 14).

As to claim 6, Saitou teaches the server device according to claim 2, further comprising:

a confirmation-form sender which sends confirmation-form information for confirming whether to send the member information received by said member-information receiver to said at least one sales staff, to said at least one user terminal through said communications section (Column 5, lines 8-67); and

a confirmation-information receiver which receives confirmation information sent from said at least one user terminal in association with the confirmation-form information sent by said confirmation-form sender, through said communications section (Column 5, lines 8-67), and

wherein said member-information sender sends an e-mail including the member information received by said member-information receiver to said at least one sales-staff terminal, only in a case where said confirmation-information receiver receives the confirmation information for confirming whether to send the member information to said at least one sales staff (Column 7, lines 41-Column 8, lines 14).

As to claim 7, Saitou teaches the server device according to claim 3, further comprising:

a confirmation-form sender which sends confirmation-form information for confirming whether to send the member information received by said member-

information receiver to said at least one sales staff, to said at least one user

terminal through said communications section (Column 5, lines 8-67); and

a confirmation-information receiver which receives confirmation

information sent from said at least one user terminal in association with the

confirmation-form information sent by said confirmation-form sender, through

said communications section (Column 5, lines 8-67), and

wherein said member-information sender sends an e-mail including the

member information received by said member-information receiver to said at

least one sales-staff terminal, only in a case where said confirmation-information

receiver receives the confirmation information for confirming whether to send the

member information to said at least one sales staff (Column 7, lines 41-Column

8, lines 14).

As to claim 8, Saitou teaches the server device according to claim 4,

further comprising:

a confirmation-form sender which sends confirmation-form information for

confirming whether to send the member information received by said member-

information receiver to said at least one sales staff, to said at least one user

terminal through said communications section (Column 5, lines 8-67); and

a confirmation-information receiver which receives confirmation

information sent from said at least one user terminal in association with the

confirmation-form information sent by said confirmation-form sender, through said communications section (Column 5, lines 8-67), and

wherein said member-information sender sends an e-mail including the member information received by said member-information receiver to said at least one sales-staff terminal, only in a case where said confirmation-information receiver receives the confirmation information for confirming whether to send the member information to said at least one sales staff (Column 7, lines 41-Column 8, lines 14).

As to claim 9, Saitou teaches a method for supporting member registration, comprising the steps of:

sending input-form information for inputting ID information for identifying at least one user, to at least one user terminal through a communications network (Column 5, lines 8-67);

receiving the ID information sent from said at least one user terminal in association with the input-form information sent at said step of sending the input-form information (Column 5, lines 8-67);

acquiring user information corresponding to said at least one user in association with the ID information received at said step of receiving the ID information, from a first storage section which stores in advance the user information regarding the at least one user to be a new member of a system (Column 6, lines 1-51);

setting the user information acquired by said information acquirer in

member-form information used for inputting member information in a

predetermined member form to generate thereby member form information

having at least part of the member information set therein, and sending the

generated member form information to said at least one user terminal (Column 5,

lines 8- Column 6, lines 51);

receiving the member information sent from said at least one user terminal

in association with the member-form information and user information sent at

said step of sending the member form (Column 5, lines 8- Column 6, lines 51);

and

storing the member information received at said step of receiving the

member information, in a second storage section storing information regarding at

least one member (Column 9, lines 34-52).

As to claim 10, Saitou teaches a method for supporting member

registration, comprising

sending input-form information for inputting ID information for identifying at

least one user in a predetermined ID form, to at least one user terminal through a

communications network (Column 5, lines 8-67);

receiving the ID information sent from said at least one user terminal in

association with the input-form information sent at said step of sending the input-

form information (Column 5, lines 8-67);

acquiring user information corresponding to said at least one user terminal in association with the ID information received at said step of receiving the ID information, from a first storage section which stores in advance the user information regarding said at least one user to be a new member of a system (Column 6, lines 1-51);

setting the user information acquired by said information acquirer in member-form information used for inputting member information to generate thereby member form information having at least part of the member information set therein and sending the generated member form information to said at least one user terminal (Column 5, lines 8- Column 6, lines 51);

receiving the member information sent from said at least one user terminal in association with the member-form information and user information sent at said step of sending the member-form information (Column 5, lines 8- Column 6, lines 51);

storing the member information received at said step of receiving the member information, in a second storage section storing information regarding at least one member (Column 9, lines 34-52); and

sending member information received at said step of receiving the member information, to at least one sales-staff terminal through a communications network (Column 9, lines 34-52).

As to claim 11, Saitou teaches the method according to claim 10, wherein:

each of said step of sending the input-form information and said step of

sending the member-form information includes a step of sending a Web page

that includes form information to said at least one user terminal(Column 7, lines

41-Column 8, lines 14); and

said step of sending the member information includes a step of sending an

e-mail that includes the member information received in said step of receiving the

member information, to said at least one sales-staff terminal ((Column 9, lines

34-52).

As to claim 12, Saitou teaches the method according to claim 10, wherein:

said step of acquiring the user information includes a step of acquiring the

user information corresponding to said at least one user from said first storage

section storing in advance the user information and a step of acquiring

information regarding at least one sales staff corresponding to the user

information from a third storage section storing information regarding at least one

sales staff (Column 9, lines 34-52); and

said step of sending the member information includes a step of setting, as

addressee, an e-mail address included in the information regarding the sales

staff and acquired in said step of acquiring the information and a step of sending

an e-mail that includes the member information acquired in said step of receiving

the member information to said at least one sales staff (Column 7, lines 41-

Column 8, lines 14).

As to claim 13, Saitou teaches the method according to claim 11, wherein:

said step of acquiring the user information includes a step of acquiring the user information corresponding to said at least one user from said first storage section storing in advance the user information and a step of acquiring information regarding at least one sales staff corresponding to the user information from a third storage section storing information regarding at least one sales staff (Column 6, lines 1-51); and

said step of sending the member information includes a step of setting, as addressee, an e-mail address included in the information regarding the sales staff and acquired in said step of acquiring the information and a step of sending an e-mail that includes the member information acquired at said step of receiving the member information to said at least one sales staff (Column 7, lines 41-Column 8, lines 14).

As to claim 14, Saitou teaches the method according to claim 10, further comprising:

sending confirmation-form information for confirming whether to send the member information received in said step of receiving the member information to said at least one sales staff, to said at least one user terminal (Column 5, lines 8-67); and

receiving confirmation information received from said at least one user

terminal in association with the confirmation-form information sent in said step of

sending the confirmation-form information (Column 5, lines 8-67), and

wherein said step of sending the member information includes a step of

sending an e-mail that includes the member information received at said step of

receiving the member information to said at least one sales-staff terminal, only in

a case where the confirmation information for confirming whether to send the

member information to said at least one sales staff is received in said step of

receiving the confirmation information (Column 7, lines 41-Column 8, lines 14).

As to claim 15, Saitou teaches the method according to claim 11, further

comprising:

sending confirmation-form information for confirming whether to send the

member information received in said step of receiving the member information to

said at least one sales staff, to said at least one user terminal (Column 5, lines 8-

67); and

receiving confirmation information received from said at least one user

terminal in association with the confirmation-form information sent at said step of

sending the confirmation-form information (Column 5, lines 8-67), and

wherein said step of sending the member information includes a step of

sending an e-mail that includes the member information received in said step of

receiving the member information to said at least one sales-staff terminal, only in

a case where the confirmation information for confirming whether to send the

member information to said at least one sales staff is received in said step of

receiving the confirmation information (Column 7, lines 41-Column 8, lines 14).

As to claim 16, Saitou teaches the method according to claim 12, further

comprising:

sending confirmation-form information for confirming whether to send the

member information received in said step of receiving the member information to

said at least one sales staff, to said at least one user terminal (Column 5, lines 8-

67); and

receiving confirmation information received from said at least one user

terminal in association with the confirmation-form information sent at said step of

sending the confirmation-form information (Column 5, lines 8-67), and

wherein said step of sending the member information includes a step of

sending an e-mail that includes the member information received in said step of

receiving the member information to said at least one sales-staff terminal, only in

a case where the confirmation information for confirming whether to send the

member information to said at least one sales staff is received in said step of

receiving the confirmation information (Column 7, lines 41-Column 8, lines 14).

As to claim 17, Saitou teaches a computer readable recording medium recording a program for controlling a computer to execute a method for supporting member registration, and said method comprising the steps of:

sending input-form information for inputting ID information for identifying at least one user, to at least one user terminal through a communications network (Column 5, lines 8-67);

receiving the ID information sent from said at least one user terminal in association with the input-form information sent at said step of sending the input-form information (Column 5, lines 8-67);

acquiring user information corresponding to said at least one user in association with the ID information received at said step of receiving the ID information, from a first storage section which stores in advance the user information regarding the at least one user to be a new member of a system (Column 6, lines 1-51);

setting the user information acquired by said information acquirer in member-form information used for inputting member information to generate thereby member form information having at least part of the member information set therein and sending the generated member form information to said at least one user terminal (Column 5, lines 8- Column 6, lines 51);

receiving the member information sent from said at least one user terminal in association with the member-form information and user information sent in

said step of sending the member form (Column 5, lines 8- Column 6, lines 51);

and

storing the member information received in said step of receiving the

member information, in a second storage section storing information regarding at

least one member (Column 9, lines 34-52).

As to claim 18, Saitou teaches a computer readable recording medium

recording a program for controlling a computer to execute a method for

supporting member registration, and said method comprising the steps of:

sending input-form information for inputting ID information for identifying at

least one user in a predetermined ID form, to at least one user terminal through a

communications network (Column 5, lines 8-67);

receiving the ID information sent form said at least one user terminal in

association with the input-form information sent at said step of sending the input-

form information (Column 5, lines 8-67);

acquiring user information corresponding to said at least one user terminal

in association with the ID information received at said step of receiving the ID

information, from a first storage section which stores in advance the user

information regarding said at least one user to be a new member of a system

(Column 6, lines 1-51);

setting the user information acquired by said information acquirer in

member-form information used for inputting member information to generate

thereby member form information having at least part of the member information

set therein and sending the generated member form information to said at least

one user terminal (Column 5, lines 8- Column 6, lines 51);

receiving the member information sent from said at least one user terminal

in association with the member-form information and user information sent at

said step of sending the member-form information (Column 5, lines 8- Column 6,

lines 51);

storing the member information received in said step of receiving the

member information, in a second storage section storing information regarding at

least one member (Column 9, lines 34-52); and

sending member information received in said step of receiving the

member information, to at least one sales-staff terminal through a

communications network (Column 9, lines 34-52).

As to claim 19, Saitou teaches a computer data signal embodied in a

carrier wave and representing an instruction sequence for controlling a computer

to execute a method for supporting member registration, and said method

comprising the steps of:

sending input-form information for inputting ID information for identifying at

least one user, to at least one user terminal through a communications network

(Column 5, lines 8-67);

receiving the ID information sent from said at least one user terminal in

association with the input-form information sent at said step of sending the input-

form information (Column 5, lines 8-67);

acquiring user information corresponding to said at least one user in

association with the ID information received at said step of receiving the ID

information, from a first storage section which stores in advance the user

information regarding the at least one user to be a new member of a system

(Column 6, lines 1-51);

setting the user information acquired by said information acquirer in

member-form information used for inputting member information to generate

thereby member form information having at least part of the member information

set therein and sending the generated member form information to said at least

one user terminal (Column 5, lines 8- Column 6, lines 51);

receiving the member information sent from said at least one user terminal

in association with the member-form information and user information sent in

said step of sending the member form (Column 5, lines 8- Column 6, lines 51);

and

storing the member information received in said step of receiving the

member information, in a second storage section storing information regarding at

least one member (Column 9, lines 34-52).

As to claim 20, Saitou teaches a computer data signal embodied in a carrier wave and representing an instruction sequence for controlling a computer to execute a method for supporting member registration, and said method comprising the steps of:

sending input-form information for inputting ID information for identifying at least one user in a predetermined ID form, to at least one user terminal through a communications network (Column 5, lines 8-67);

receiving the ID information sent form said at least one user terminal in association with the input-form information sent at said step of sending the input-form information (Column 5, lines 8-67);

acquiring user information corresponding to said at least one user terminal in association with the ID information received at said step of receiving the ID information, from a first storage section which stores in advance the user information regarding said at least one user to be a new member of a system (Column 6, lines 1-51);

setting the user information acquired by said information acquirer in member-form information used for inputting member information to generate thereby member form information having at least part of the member information set therein and sending the generated member form information to said at least one user terminal;

receiving the member information sent from said at least one user terminal in association with the member-form information and user information sent in

said step of sending the member-form information (Column 5, lines 8- Column 6,

lines 51);

storing the member information received in said step of receiving the

member information, in a second storage section storing information regarding at

least one member (Column 9, lines 34-52); and

sending member information received in said step of receiving the

member information, to at least one sales-staff terminal through a

communications network (Column 9, lines 34-52).

Response to Arguments

4.   Applicant's arguments filed on September 06, 2005 have been fully

considered but they are not persuasive.

In the remarks, the applicant argues in substance that; A) Claims 19 and

20 are statutory.

In response to A) It does not appear that a claim reciting a signal encoded

with functional descriptive material falls within any of the categories of patentable

subject matter set forth in 101.

The Supreme Court has read the term "manufacture" in accordance with

its dictionary definition to mean "the production of articles for use from raw or

prepared material by giving to these materials new forms, qualities, properties, or

combinations, whether by hand-labor or by machinery". The definition requires

physical substance, which a claimed signal does not have.

A product is a tangible physical article or object, some form of matter,

which a signal is not. That the other two product classes, machine and

composition of matter, require physical matter is evidence that a manufacture

was also intended to require physical matter. A signal, a form of energy, does not

fall within either of the two definitions of manufacture. Thus, a signal does not fall

within one of the four statutory classes of § 101.

Therefore, the claimed invention in claims 19 and 20 are non-statutory

subject matter.

Conclusion

5.   Applicant's arguments have been considered but are moot in view of the

new ground(s) of rejection.

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection

presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**.

See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as

set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire

THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is

filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory

action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory

period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory

action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be

calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will

the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this

final action.

6.   Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from

the examiner should be directed to Faruk Hamza whose telephone number is

571-272-7969. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through

Friday.

         If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the

examiner's supervisor, Saleh Najjar can be reached at 571-272-4006. The fax

phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is

assigned is 571-273-8300.

         Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from

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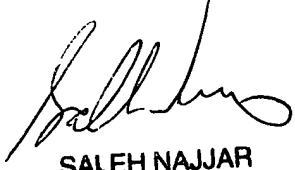
information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you

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Faruk Hamza

Patent Examiner

Group Art Unite 2155

SALEH NAJJAR
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER